Evil Flowers

CREDITS

Raw Provider: Unknown

Translator: jekyl03

Proofreader: BuConAp

Cleaner: Cheesecake

Typesetter: Gotica

Quality Checker: Tessa

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Oboreru Knife

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5

Chapter 20 Mountain-cranberry girl 135P

Chapter 19 The Hinemosuya girl 91P

Chapter 18 Winter sky 49P

Chapter 17 Reaffirmation 5P

Story up to now

Natsume was abducted by an obsessed fan. Kou, who arrived alone to help her only to have the tables turned on him, is rescued with Natsume by the adults. The two leave home in order to regain their power and reinstate their "world", but inevitably realise that everything is different from before...

Oboreru Knife

Chapter 17

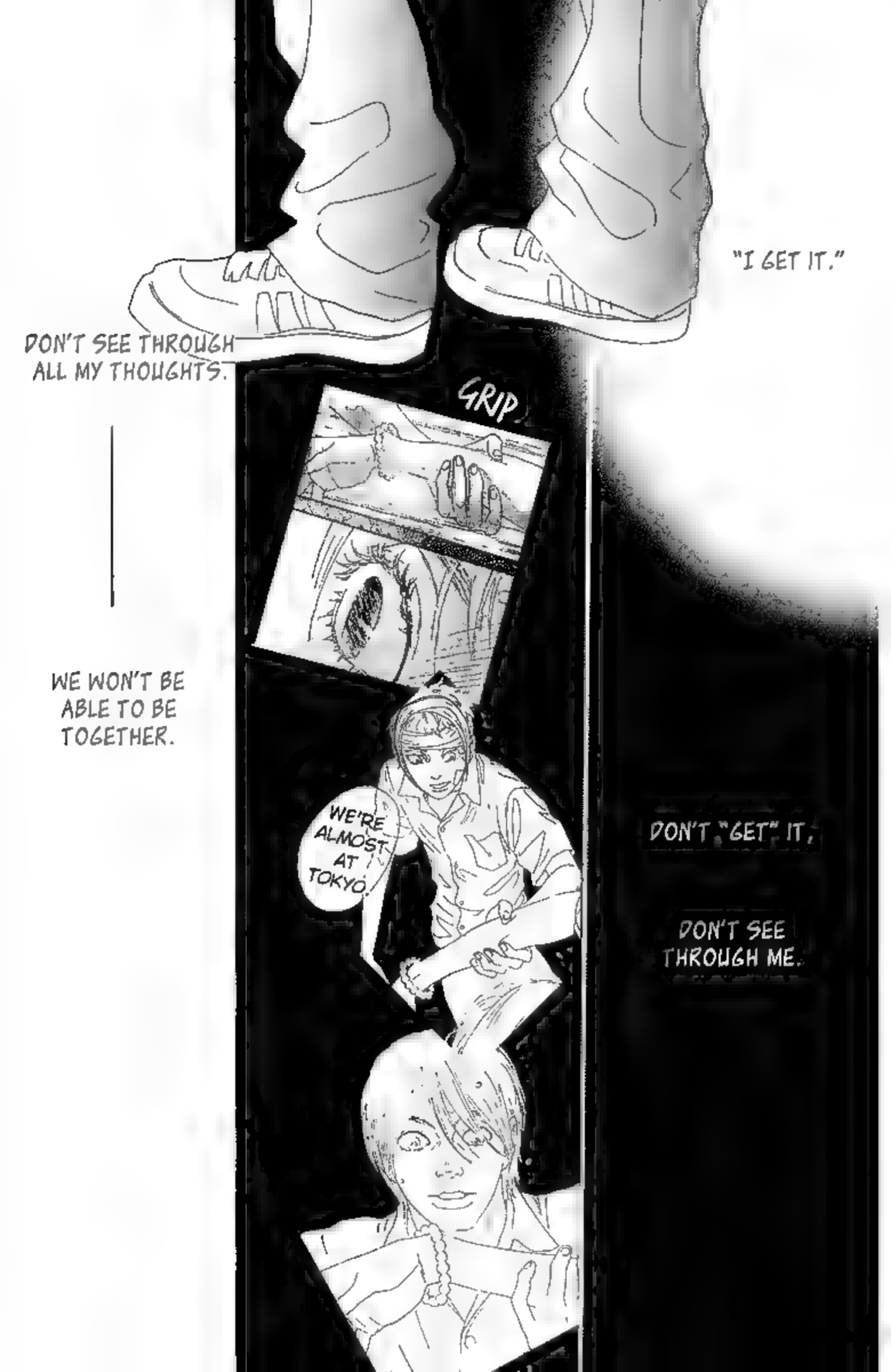
Reaffirmation

ROARING
...
ROARING
GETS UP

DO ME A FAVOUR AND CONTACT HINEMOSUYA..
GATAN
LIKE I SAID, WE'RE ON OUR WAY BACK.
GATAN
ROARING

ROARING
UKIGUMO CHOU
NATSUME
.....
I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO SLEEP MUCH LATELY.
.....
LIM.
VROOOOOM

SHOULD I STOP?!
BUT HER INJURY-
WHAT
ALSO
I'M A LITTLE AFRAID OF RIDING IN A CAR.
TO BE HONEST,
AND UH,
SNORE
OH.
WHAT ...
HAHA
OH MY,
SHE'S ASLEEP.
DON'T APOLOGISE


"I GET IT."
DON'T SEE THROUGH ALL MY THOUGHTS.
GRIP
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO BE TOGETHER.
WE'RE ALMOST AT TOKYO.
DON'T "GET" IT.
DON'T SEE THROUGH ME.

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GETS UP
N
NATSUME-CHAN..
GOOD MORNING...
.....
WE WERE ALL SO WORRIED YOU KNOW...?
YOUR INJURY LOOKS PAIN-FUL.
...THANKS-
Haa
IT WAS REALLY CHAOTIC HAVING TO GO TO THE POLICE AND STUFF, RIGHT?
MAN!
Hahaha
...SHE SEEMS FINE.

WHO WAS IT THAT SAID SHE WAS RAPED?
THEY SAY THAT SHE DOESN'T REALLY RE-MEMBER...
OPEN
.....
OH,
...MO-CHIZUKI
IS HERE ...
OH,
YEAH?

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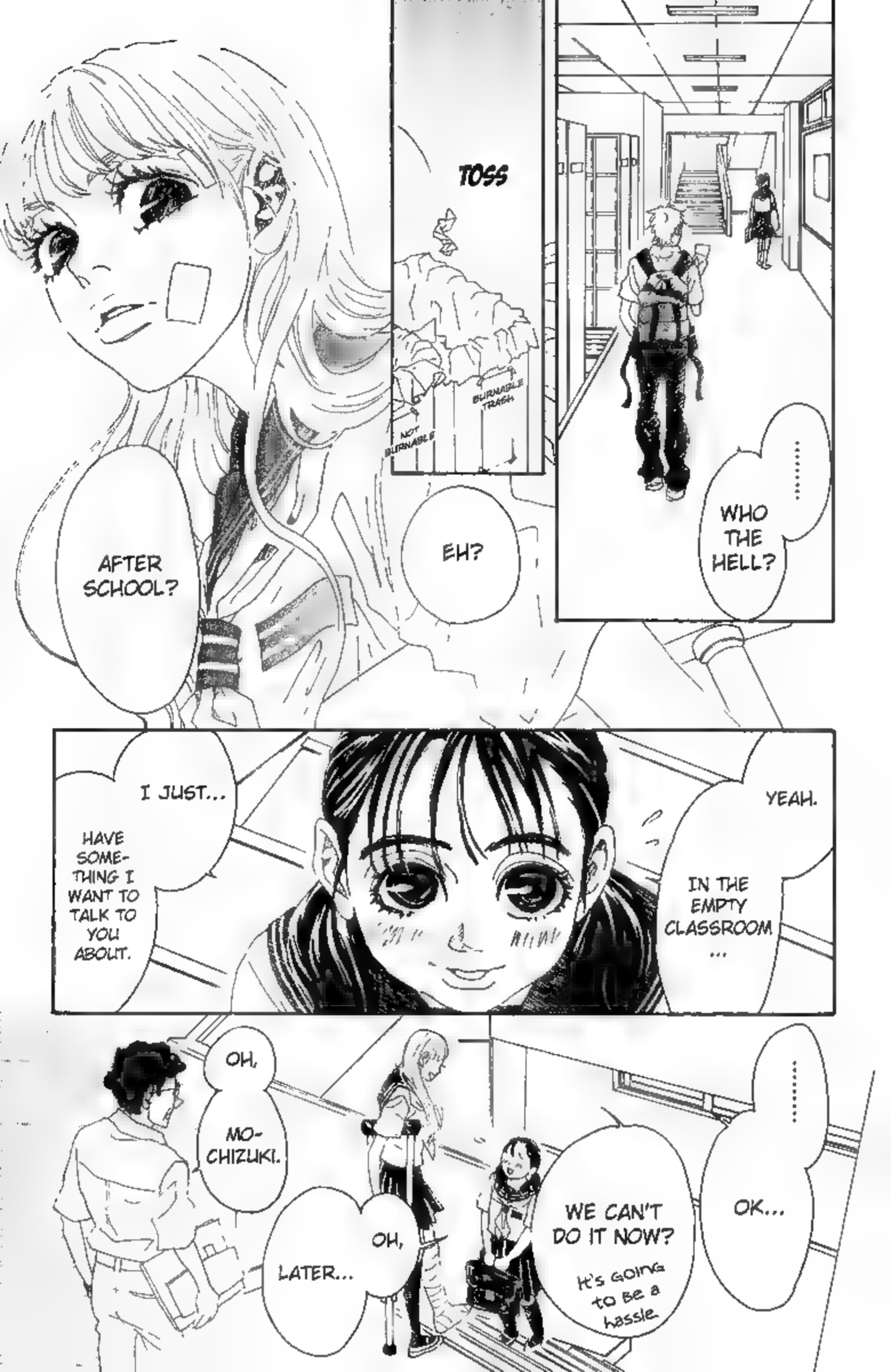
AH!
IT'S OK!
DON'T...
I'LL GO GET HIM FOR YOU—
IT'S KOU-CHAN!
GETS UP
I WANT TO BORROW YOUR NOTES FROM WHEN I WAS OUT.
ACTUALLY,
OH!
WE ALL TOOK NOTES FOR YOU!
NO WAY, THANKS!

Vroom——
...DID THEY BREAK UP?

IT MUST BE BECAUSE OF THE INCIDENT.
WE CAN'T REALLY ASK NATSUME-CHAN...
THEY'RE NEVER TOGETHER,
OH! YOU THINK SO?!
女子更衣室
...YOU KNOW,
IT'S ALWAYS SO AWKWARD WHEN NATSUME-CHAN'S AROUND.
MAYBE WE SHOULDN'T ASK HER TO GO SHOPPING WITH US NEXT SUNDAY.
I ALWAYS FEEL LIKE I'M GOING TO SAY SOMETHING WRONG.
I KNOW, I KNOW—
.....

Gyahahaha
Like I said, the thing about soukhoz and kolkhoz is...
Morning
AFTER SCHOOL, I WILL BE WAITING IN THE EMPTY
CLASSROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR.
UNFOLD


TOSS
NOT BURNABLE
BURNABLE TRASH
AFTER SCHOOL?
EH?
WHO THE HELL?
.....
I JUST... HAVE SOME-THING I WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.
YEAH. IN THE EMPTY CLASSROOM ...
OH, MO-CHIZUKI.
OH, LATER...
WE CAN'T DO IT NOW?
It's going to be a hassle
OK...
.....

DON'T PAY ATTENTION TO THOSE MAGAZINES.
WELL, SO UH...
.....
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHAT MAGAZINE?
HEY, HURRY UP AND LET ME SEE...
WHOA! ARE YOU SERIOUS?
GRAB

SUDDEN FILM RESIGNATION!
BEAUTIFUL YOUNG GIRL!
THE STAR OF THE POPULAR 'MITANI REHOUSING' CM, MOCHIZUKI NATSUME-CHAN (13)
PHOTO SESSIONS BORDERING ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT: SUGGESTIVE CUTS—IS IT PERMISSIBLE FOR US TO BE IGNORING THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN?
BEAUTIFUL 13 YEARS OLD GIRL DEFILED ON THE NIGHT OF TRADITIONAL FESTIVAL!
WAS SHE THE LOVER OF HIRONOU SHOUGO, HARDCORE FAN OF BEAUTIFUL GIRLS?!
ABDUCTED INTO OFFENDER'S HEAD AND TAKEN DEEP INTO THE MOUNTAINS...?
IN A DEEPER SITUATION, A BEAUTIFUL GIRL'S CRIES ECHO.
NUDE WHEREABOUTS CUED.
THE SUSPECT IS A 20 YEAR OLD CRAZY FAN.
OH...
FLASHERS
DISCOVERY OF UNPUBLISHED INTIMATE PHOTOS TAKEN BY HIRONOU SHOUGO, A CAMERAMAN WHO SPECIALIZES IN LOLITAS! ASSOCIATES RECOUNT A SHADY PHOTO SESSION.
LOVER, HIRONOU IS FURIOUS! DUE TO THE UNDENIABLE RAPE THEORY, HE ABANDONS HER AND WALKS AWAY! THE COMPLETE TRAGIC STORY!
……
フラッシャーズ

THROW
AS IF!
MORONS!
...
WHAT?
YOU GUYS DON'T BELIEVE THIS,
DO YOU...?

O-
OF COURSE NOT.
RIGHT.
IT'S A LIE; OF COURSE ...
Whisper
LIES CAN BE PUBLISHED IN MAGAZINES?
I KNOW, RIGHT?
.....

DIE!

.....

DIE.

FLASHERS

フラッシャーズ

Clench

HASEGAWA,
HASEGAWA!

リハウジング美少女!
突然の映画降板!!
HEY, HEY!
IS THIS TRUE?!
IS THIS WHY YOU TWO BROKE UP?
PUNCH
.....
OH...

HIT
!
LATELY, YOUR HEAD'S JUST NOT BEEN IN IT!
YOU'RE IN THE WAY.
GO HOME!
NATSUME-CHAN...

WAIT,
NATSUME-CHAN!

I SAID "IN THE EMPTY CLASS-ROOM."
DID YOU FORGET?
OH YEAH ...
SORRY, THAT'S RIGHT,
WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?
OH,
IN THE EMPTY CLASS-ROOM...
JUST TELL ME HERE.
BUT...
-OH,
BUT ...
OH BOY, WELL ACTUALLY ...
YOU KNOW,
I STRUGGLE WITH STAIRS AND STUFF...
I'VE ASKED KOU-CHAN TO COME TO THE EMPTY CLASSROOM TOO.
WHAT?!

BUT,
SORRY I DIDN'T ASK YOU...
UMM ...
OH,
I COULD AT LEAST PROVIDE YOU TWO A CHANCE TO TALK IT OVER.
I THOUGHT IF YOU AND KOU-CHAN HAD SOME KIND OF MISUNDERSTANDING,
KANA-CHAN'S
LOST A LITTLE WEIGHT.
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PEOPLE ARE SAYING A LOT OF DIFFERENT THINGS,
BUT I DON'T BELIEVE THEM!
KOU-CHAN WAS WITH YOU...
ABOUT THE INCIDENT,
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
EVERYBODY WILL GET TIRED OF THIS TOPIC SOON.
YOU KNOW, I REALLY DON'T REMEMBER.
YOU TRUST?
WHAT IS THAT?

I MAY HAVE BEEN RAPED.
WHY DON'T YOU GO OUT WITH HIM?
IF YOU LOVE KOU-CHAN THAT MUCH AND YOU TRUST HIM SO...
ANYWAY,
……

KOU-CHAN
I'M JEALOUS THAT YOU CAN TRUST HIM SO MUCH.
DIDN'T...
DIDN'T,
HE DIDN'T
GOD
EVEN RESCUE ME OR ANYTHING!

MY LITTLE GOD...

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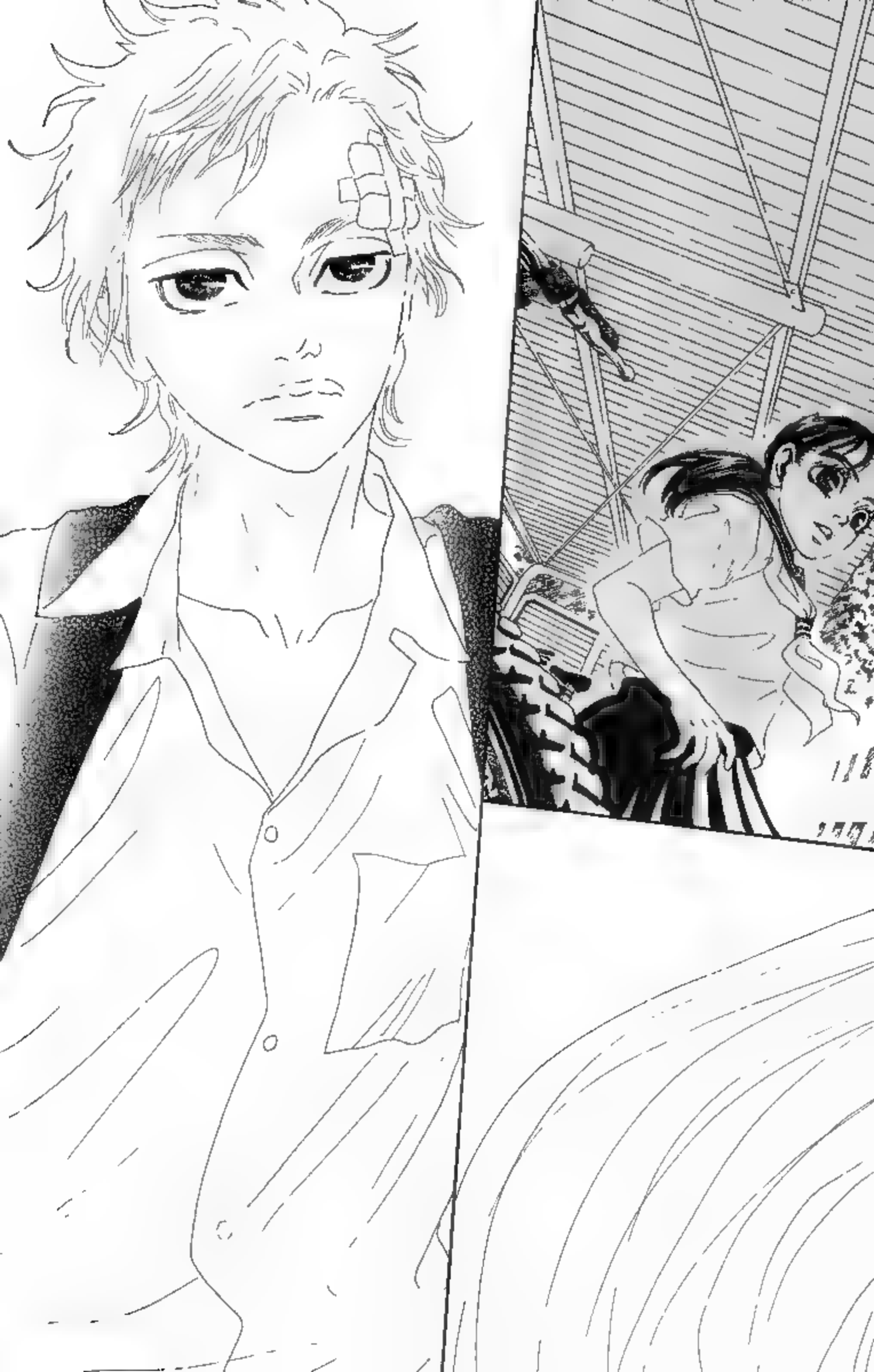

Step
Step
Step
Step
.....
Step
CLANG
...
OH.

NATSUME-CHA..
Uwaa-
I-
I'M SORRY ...

Crunch
Crunch
Crunch

—
YOU SHOULD GO TO THE HOSPITAL.
IF YOU CAN'T HEAR,
YOU KNOW,
.....
I AM ALWAYS A DISAPPOINTMENT...
APPARENTLY,

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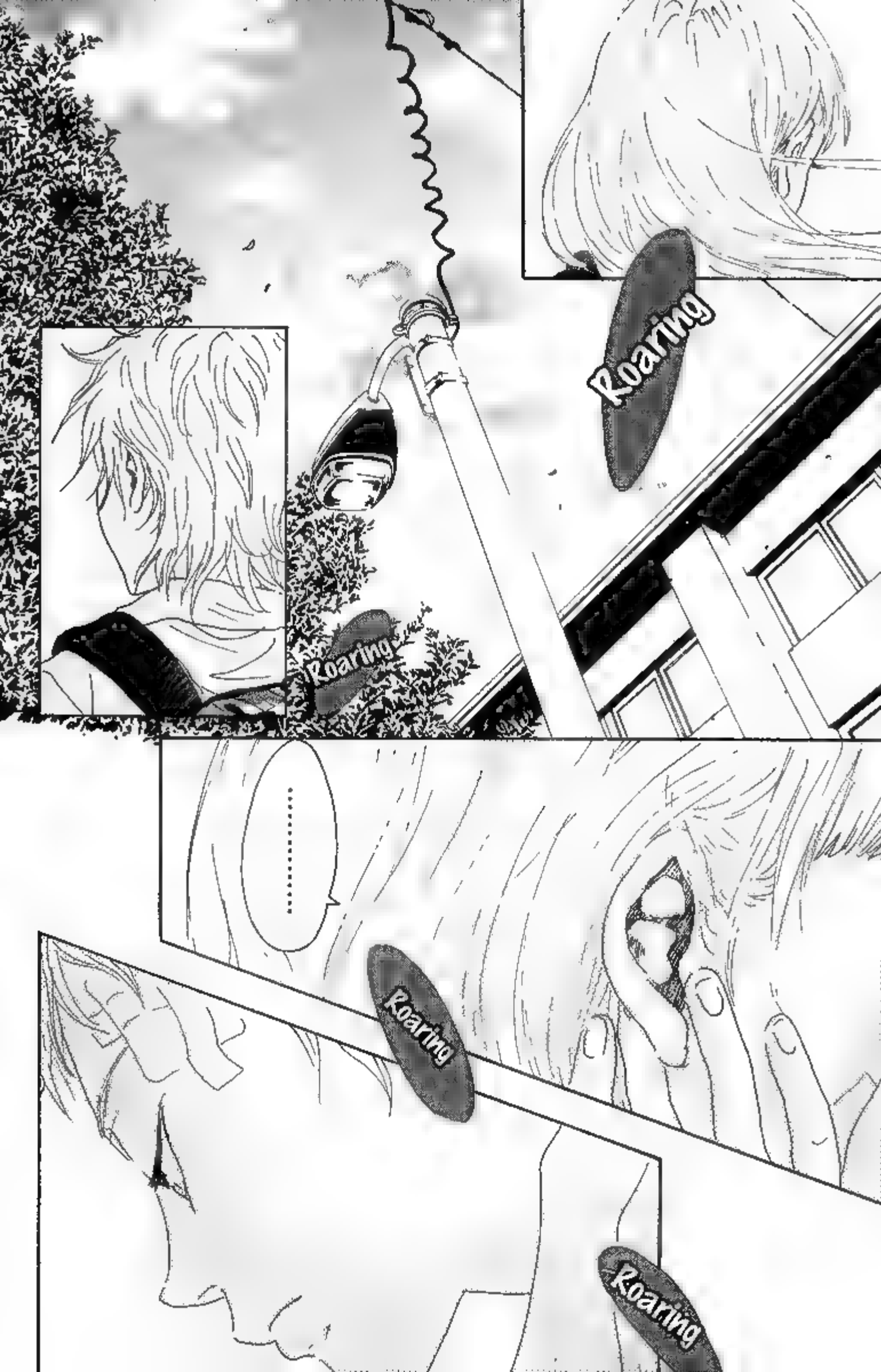
—IT BRINGS YOU DOWN...
WHEN I'M AROUND, RIGHT?


Roaring
Roaring
Roaring
Roaring
.....

CLANG
Crunch

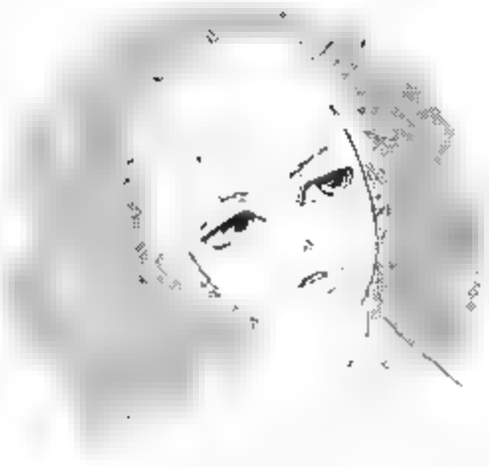
...
WAI-
T.....

BECAUSE KOU-CHAN,
GOOO
YOU SEE RIGHT THROUGH ME AND I CAN'T FOOL YOU.
AH-...
IT'S TRUE HE BRINGS ME DOWN...
HE'S GONE...

HE'S GONE...

MY LITTLE GOD.

Oboreru Knife



HASUME TAKUMI (27 YEARS OLD)

〈VERDICT〉 FOUND GUILTY OF IMPRISONMENT AND INFLICTING INJURY. SENTENCED TO 3 YEARS PRISON.

3 YEARS!

IF SHE WERE, HE'D BE GUILTY OF "SEXUAL ASSAULT" OR SOMETHING.

OH YEAH.

OH REALLY?

WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE SHE WAS RAPED OR ANYTHING...

THAT'S IT, HUH?

ANYWAY,

You suck~!

Ahaha pretty good, aren't I?

What's that?

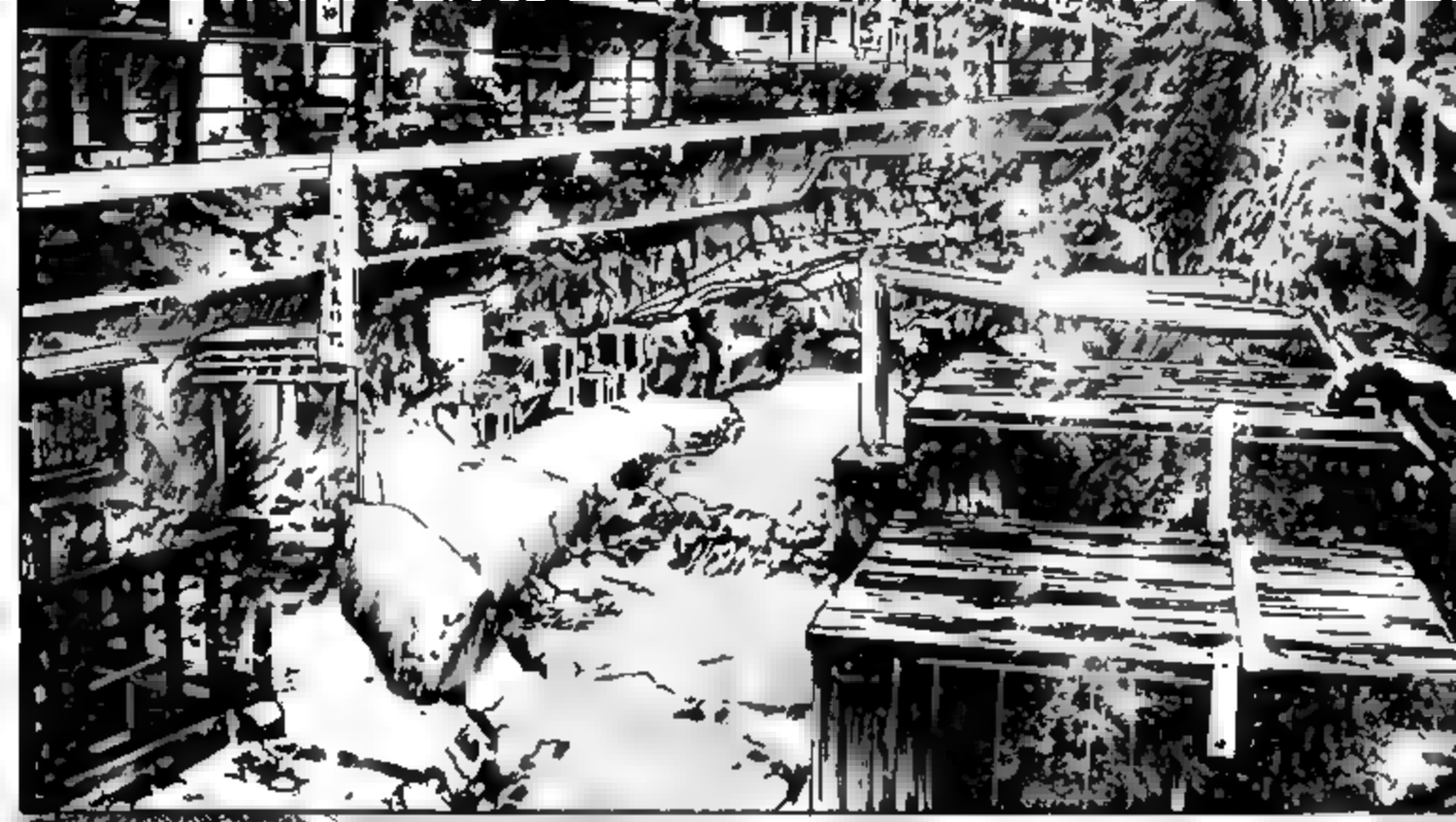
MOCHIZUKI SEEMS PRETTY NORMAL.

WHO KNOWS

I WONDER WHAT REALLY HAPPENED ...

IT'S NOT LIKE SHE'S ON TV ANYMORE.
I'M BORED,
WITH THIS TOPIC.

Chapter
18
Winter sky



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...
I'LL RETURN IT.. TODAY.
Clink
VROOM
NAT-SUME!
I'LL TAKE YOU TO SCHOOL
AHAHA I TOLD YOU I CAN GO BY MYSELF! GRANDPA
MY LEG'S ALL BETTER IT'S BEEN 4 MONTHS
THE VERDICT'S OUT I CAN RIDE CARS ...

THE UGLY DEMON WOMAN-GOD IN THE MOUN-TAINS,
MUST'VE GOTTEN JEAL-OUS.
EVERYTHING'S BACK TO NORMAL.
EVERY-THING.
.....
NAT-SUME,
YOU'RE A BEAU-TIFUL GIRL.
Ahaha
WHA—?

I'M NOT WELCOMED HERE...
HUH?
I ASKED HIM
TO TEACH ME TO RIDE A BIKE.
THE BUS IS HERE.

....
THE NEW GENERAL GOODS STORE BY THE PORT WAS SELLING BRACELETS LIKE THESE.
OH YEAH!
OH,
Even though it's winter,
SPARKLY BRACELET
celebrity-like with a sparkly bracelet
BEADED BRACELET
THERE'S A NEW GENERAL GOODS STORE?
OH—
....
IT'S PRETTY TRENDY FOR THESE PARTS.
DON'T YOU THINK?
YEAH.
PRETTY CHEAP TOO.

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...
SO YOU'VE ALL BEEN THERE ALREADY ...
OH,
YEAH.
YOU SHOULD COME WITH US NEXT TIME!
OOTOMO--
IF I RECALL, YOUR GYM CLOTHES ARE REALLY COOL.
EH? YOU FORGOT YOUR GYM CLOTHES?
OUR CLASSES HAVE GYM AT THE SAME TIME. I CAN'T LEND YOU MY CLOTHES.

AH.
YOU'RE RIGHT, SHIT.
I DON'T WANT YOUR STINKY GYM CLOTHES ANYWAY.
IDIOT. THEY'RE ROSE SCENTED.
Ahaha
OH.
THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU KNOW, I HEARD
THE GYM-NASTICS GIRLS HAVE KUNIHIRO SUZUKA AS THEIR LEADER..
OH! YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT HOW THEY INVITED SOME GIRLS FROM A DIFFERENT SCHOOL TO GO ON A GROUP DATE WITH THE GUYS AT AN AMUSEMENT PARK ON CHRIST-MAS, RIGHT?
THEY'RE SO MATURE!

ISN'T IT?
IT HASN'T EVEN BEEN THAT LONG SINCE YOU TWO BROKE UP! THAT'S ANNOYING.
I WONDER IF KOU-CHAN WENT TOO...
KOU-CHAN'S GROUP, RIGHT?
YOU MEAN THE GUYS FROM CLASS A -
KOU-CHAN CLAIMS TO BE STOIC BUT IT'S ALL TALK.
...WHO KNOWS.
Clink

HEY, WHERE'S NATSUME-CHAN?
SHE SAID SHE FORGOT SOMETHING IN THE CLASS-ROOM..
BUT HEY,
HUH? WHY?
BRINGING UP HASEGAWA-KUN...
YOU MADE ME NERVOUS, EARLIER.
SHUT UP! NATSUME-CHAN SEEMS FINE...
YOU'RE HOPELESS.
SOMETIMES SHE DOESN'T REALISE WHEN I CALL HER NAME...
EVEN WHEN SHE'S SMILING, HER HEART'S NOT IN IT.
NAH.

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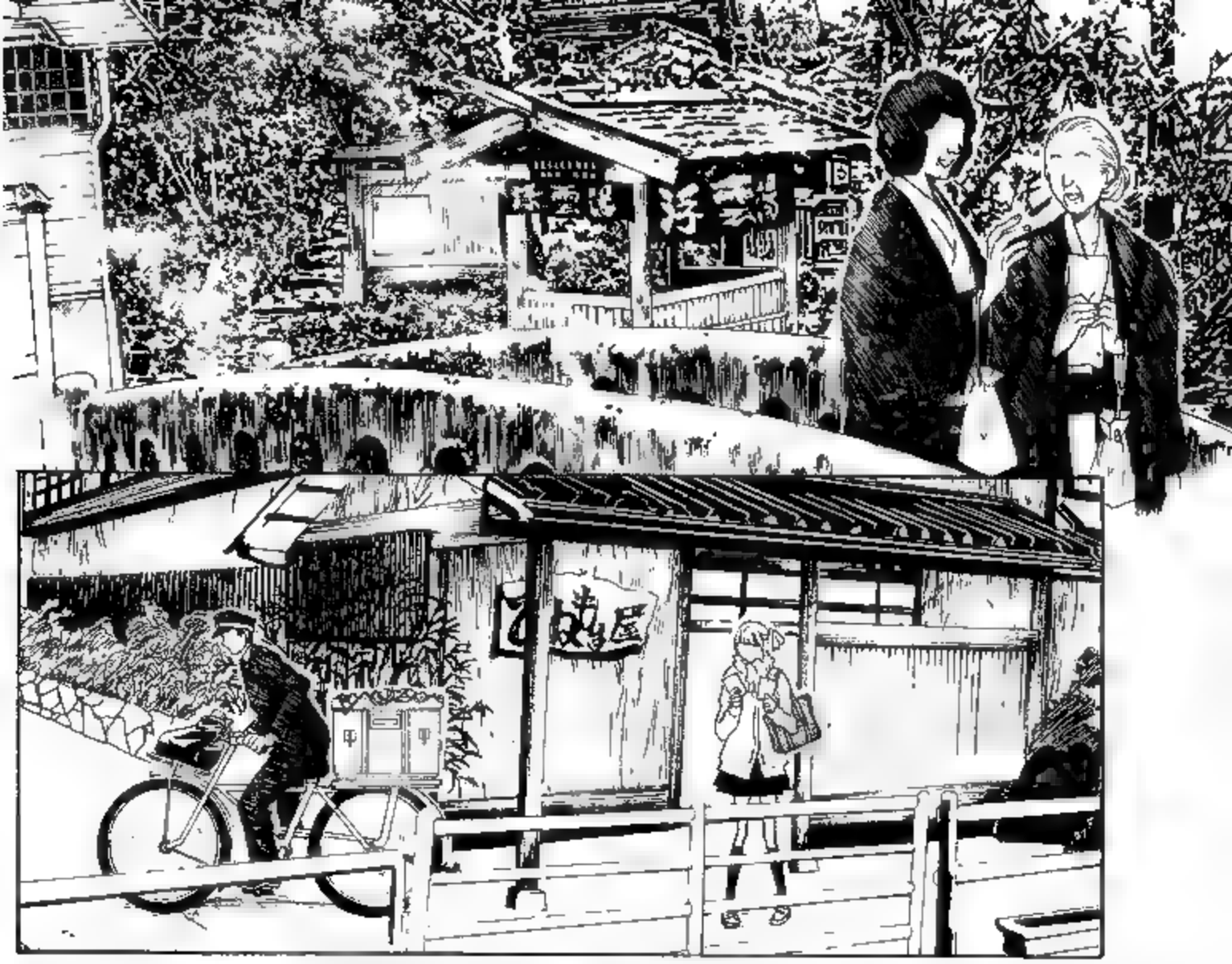
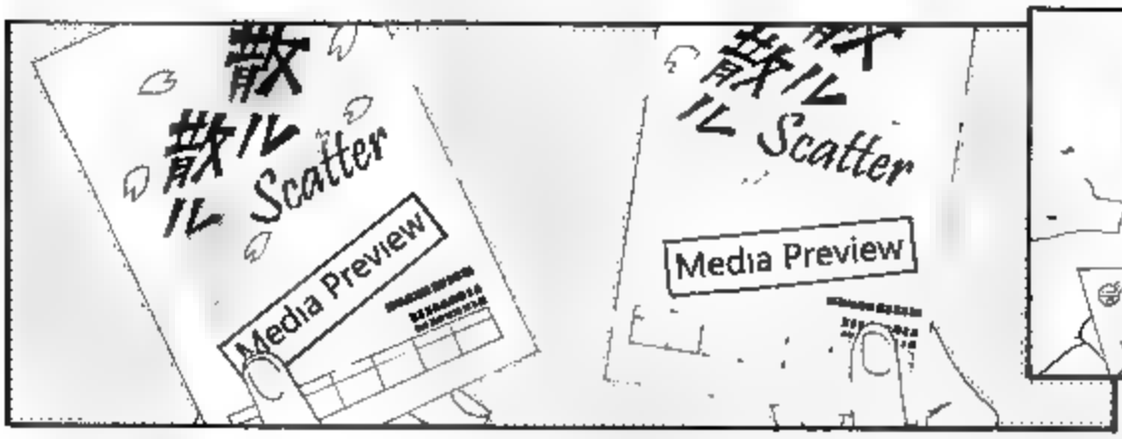
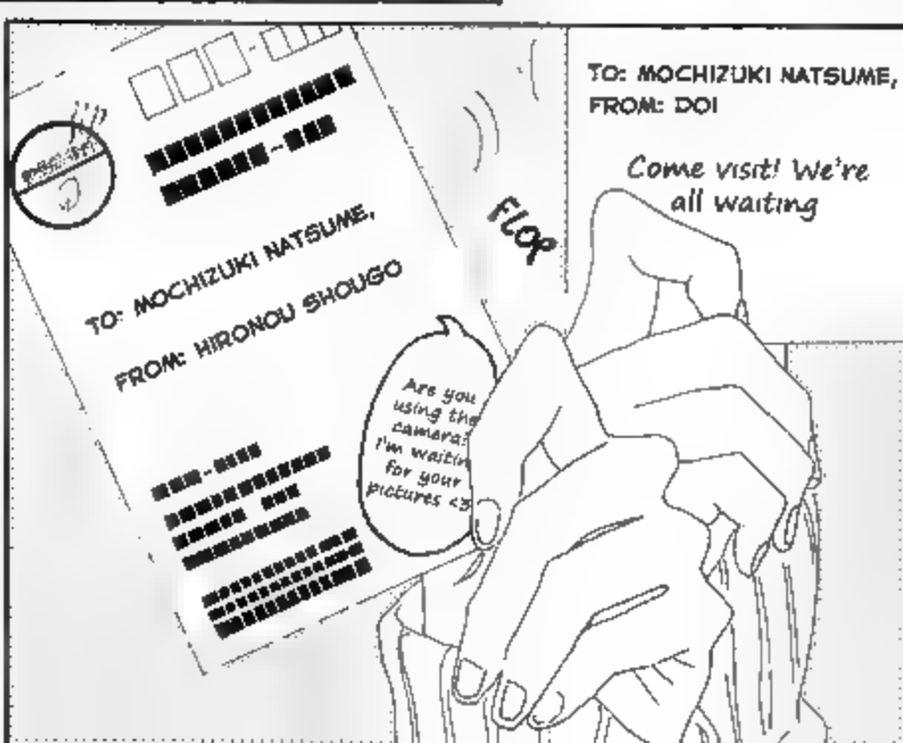


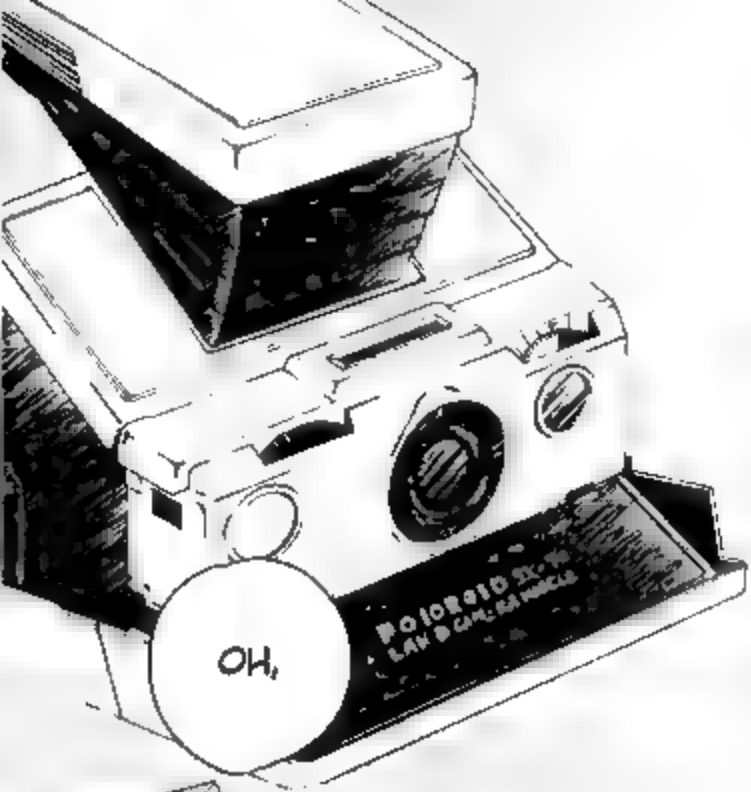


Are you using the camera? I'm waiting for your pictures <3

SFX WAAAHH

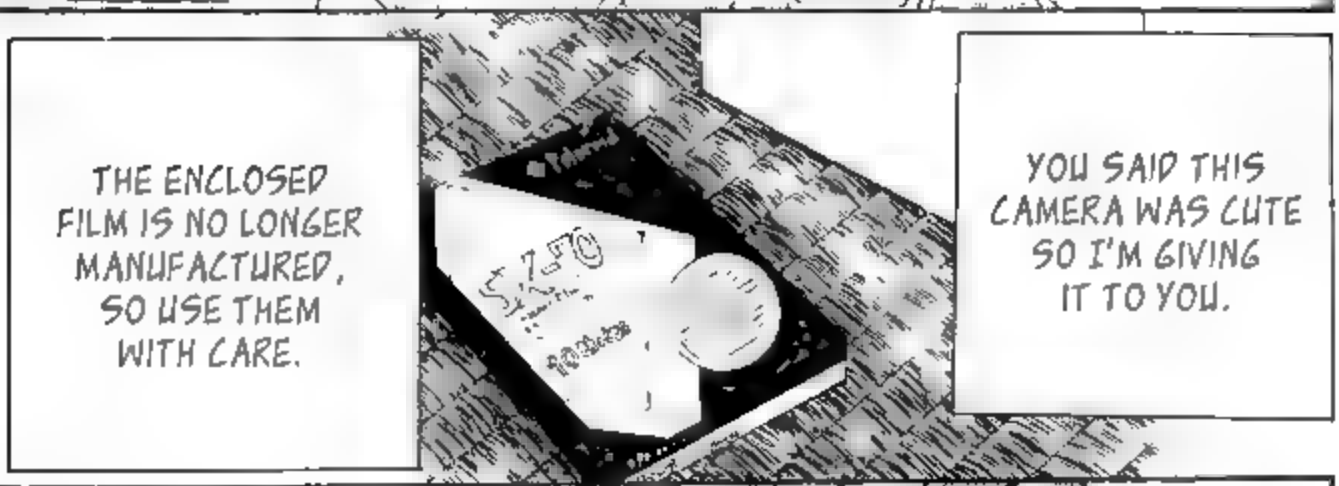

TO: MOCHIZUKI NATSUME,
FROM: HIRONOU SHOUGO
TO: MOCHIZUKI NATSUME,
FROM: DOI
Come visit! We're all waiting
FLOP
Are you using the camera? I'm waiting for your pictures <3

—
WELL,
YOU'VE HAD SOME LETTERS AND PHONE CALLS,
フラレ
FROM DOI-SAN AND HIRONOU-SAN.
JACK...
WAAA~
JACK!
OH MY. HE WANTED YOU TO EAT HIM.
As long as we cook him it should be ok
HE'S DEAD ...?
DEAD—
UWAA! I WON'T EAT HIM!
...
IS THIS?
Rip
WHAT...
—
MUM,


OH,
Polaroid

OH.
Rip
I THOUGHT I'D LET YOU KNOW ABOUT THEM ONCE THINGS HAD SETTLED...

NAT-SUME-CHAN,
YEAH.
Rustle
THERE WERE PICTURES OF YOU IN THE PHOTO COLLECTION HOLDING THIS.
It's cute


THE ENCLOSED FILM IS NO LONGER MANUFACTURED, SO USE THEM WITH CARE.
YOU SAID THIS CAMERA WAS CUTE SO I'M GIVING IT TO YOU.

Sob
...
HOWL
WHAT ?!
AS THANKS, YOU CAN SEND ME PICTURES YOU'VE TAKEN OF YOUR LIFE

UWA—N
UGYA—N
MUM SAID SHE'S GOING TO MAKE TEMPURA OUT OF JACK-!
HAH ...
SO THIS IS WHAT I LOOK LIKE WHEN I SMILE....

Sob—
Idiot!
Natsume's
poop—!
WHAT SHOULD I TAKE...? ...9 MORE PHOTOS.
Sob
THERE'S NO POINT IN CRYING LIKE THAT.
IT'S NOT LIKE JACK'S GOING TO COME BACK TO LIFE.

ONE FOR EACH OF US!
CAN I HAVE IT?!
Click
TAKE US, TAKE ONE OF US!
NATSUME-CHAN GET IN TOO!
Click
OH, I MESSED UP.
CUTE
CAMERA CASE
速写ケース
THERE'S ONLY ONE LEFT!
Oh my
NATSUME-CHAN, LET'S EAT!
I shouldn't have brought it

HEY!
KOU!

BUY SOME FANCY SANDWICH FOR ME TOO~!
MORON!
SHUT UP!
LEAVING CAMPUS DURING LUNCH IS FORBIDDEN!
HEY ~~~
It goes without saying, buying outside lunch is too
AHAHAHAHA!
....

Clink
OH...
OPENS
AHAHA
...
....
OH,
....
LATER!
BYE...

VROOM
Vroom

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Clink
BANG
HASEGAWA
I-A
-B
....

Crunch
Rustle
...
THE SUNSET ...
—OH.
OF COURSE.

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....
IT FEELS,
LIKE IT WAS SO LONG AGO...
Splash

...
KOU-
CHAN...
KOU-
CHAN
SPLASH

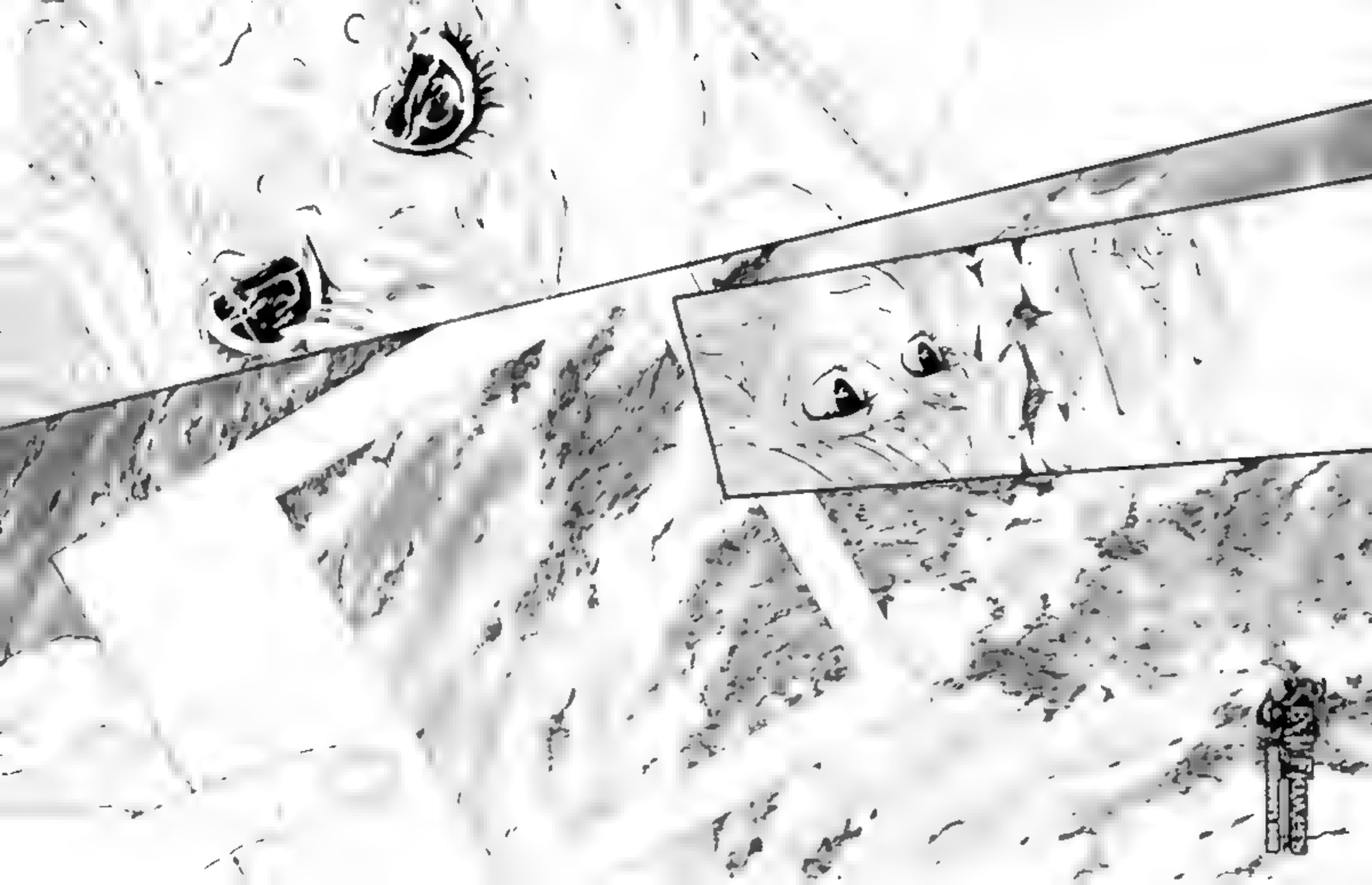
KOU-
CHAN...
Splash
...
HEH.
HE'S
NOT
HERE,
DUH...

...AND I'VE RETURNED
OUR LAST CONNEC-TION...
FUFU BOUGHT A BRACELET ...
I SHOULD'VE...
Splash

Clink

CLICK

KOU-
CHAN
...
IS
HERE,
NO
LONGER
...
FUFU
...
.....



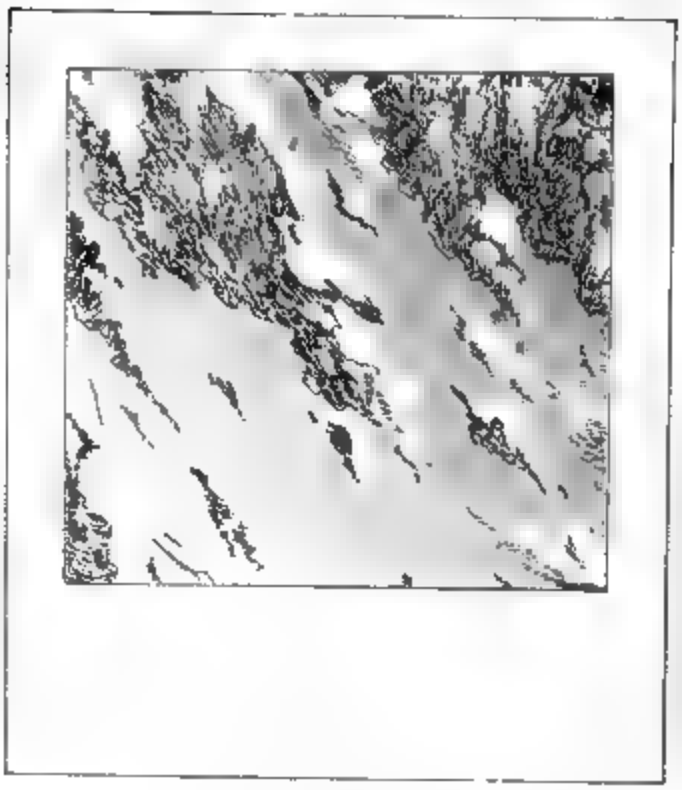
WON'T DO ANY
CRYING
IDIOT
...UGH...
....HI—N
HI—N
....HI—N...
HI-...

I'M LONELY.
LONELY,
LONELY,
LONELY!

RIGHT NOW,

ALL THAT'S LEFT

IS THIS EMPTY



LANDSCAPE.

Obororu
Knife

Chapter
19

The Hinemosuya Daughter

I tried so hard not to fall over,
but all I could do was stand still.
The wind passes through me.
It never occurred to me to do anything else.
OH!
HEY, HEY!

I FIGURED IT OUT – IT TASTES LIKE NORI!
YOU KNOW, I ALWAYS THOUGHT THE ICE TEA AT KANA -CHAN'S HOUSE HAD A FUNNY TASTE...
.....
RIGHT?!
THE AFTER TASTE IS LIKE NORI!
YOU'RE RIGHT!
BWAHAHA
... I know
but I do.
I pretend I don't.
that they're making fun of me.
I could read them all day and not get sick of them.
THAN HANG.NG OUT WITH THESE GIRLS
I'D RATHER BE READING MAGAZ.NES
Fashion magazines are all so sparkly.

these items that smell of dreams,
– But then I can't help buying
but I don't know what to do with them.
HEY, DID YOU HEAR?
WHAT THOSE GIRLS WOULD SAY IF I USED ANY OF THEM
WHO KNOWS
OH!
THE GIRL IS THE SAME AGE AS US, RIGHT?
THE HEIR OF HINEMOSUYA IS BACK...
A GIRL FROM TOKYO...
KANA–
.HUH?
NATSUME -CHAN FROM "HINEMOSUYA" IS HERE–

H-

HELLO—...

LOVELY NEW!!

プラム

Plum

GYAAAAAA

IT'S NATSUME-CHAN FROM "PLUM"—!

THE KEY TO THIS AUTUMN IS SEXY
AN OUT-OF-DATE STYLE.

MOCHI-ZUKI, 88'
AND SHE'S SMART!
Compared to me, at least
She just really hates to lose.
SHE'S ATHLETIC TOO!
SHE'S ALREADY FRIENDLY WITH THE OTHER GIRLS...
SHE PROBABLY DOESN'T EVEN NOTICE ME ANYMORE
HEY, KANA-CHAN, WHICH ONE DO YOU LIKE?
Beautiful people have beautiful hearts too, don't they?!
Natsume-chan is even cuter in real life compared to the magazines.
She's like a different species with a completely different make-up to the rest of us!
She's cute even when she's cleaning.

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.Everybody

WATCH AND WEEP, PEOPLE!
So those two ARE dating after all
But the strongest guy capturing the prettiest girl
is of course, totally fitting.
likes Kou-chan.
They target him because they sense danger.
Nobody compares to Natsume-chan!
Ah-
!
WHAT?
I CAN'T EVEN BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND PEOPLE LIKE HER WHO DON'T KNOW THE R PLACE

KANA,
.....
Snicker
Snicker
AHH...
THE PIGLET RACCOON WAS STARING AT ME AGAIN.
WHAT'S WRONG?
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
WHAT AM I ACTING ALL SCARED FOR?
YOU'RE ON THE BASKETBALL TEAM, RIGHT?

AFTER YOU FINISH PRACTICE
DO YOU THINK YOU COULD WALK NATSUME HOME?
UH,
HE CALLED HER BY HER FIRST NAME.
ARE THEY CLOSE?
NO PROB-LEM...
Y-
YEAH SURE...
WOW—
WOW—...

SO, YOU LIKE KOU-CHAN?
Kou-chan asked ME!
I'M NOT ON HIS RADAR AT ALL.
BUT,
.....
I understand
I understand my place. Plus,
SO,
THE TWO OF YOU ARE SUCH A GREAT COUPLE
YOU'RE SO SPARKLY, NATSUME -CHAN.
So
don't look troubled, Natsume-chan.
It's true.
I
GET EXCITED JUST WATCHING THE TWO OF YOU!

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I want
to be

their number
one witness.

A birthday party for Natsume-chan?"
"What?
I'M INVITING KOU-CHAN TOO.
YUP, A SURPRISE PARTY.
EVERYBODY'S GETTING DRESSED UP...
SIGN: THE MOUNTAIN CAFÉ KOKEMOMO
I KNOW THIS, AND YET
THIS IS WHY PEOPLE SAY I'M ANNOYING.
SUCH A DAMPER
WHY DO I ALWAYS CRY SO EASILY?
OH JEEZ -

Kou-chan didn't come either. .
HELLO—
OH, SISTER.
OH.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I THOUGHT I'D STOP BY AFTER GOING TO OUR PARENTS'.
YOU CAME FOR THE ONSEN.
Ahaha.
Here's a little gift.
.....
I don't really get along with my cousin who's two years older.
OH.
KANA!
YOU GO TO THE SAME SCHOOL AS MOCHIZUKI NATSUME, RIGHT?
I WANT TO SEE HER.
JUL E-CHAN, YOU LOOK SO MUCH OLDER.
HEHE.
OH, SHE WAS JUST HERE.
SO SHE REALLY IS FAMOUS, ISN'T SHE?
KANA'S BEEN TRYING TO EMULATE HER DIETING AND GROWING HER HAIR OUT AND DRESSING UP...
Hehe
I don't like her.
..SERIOUSLY?
Pant

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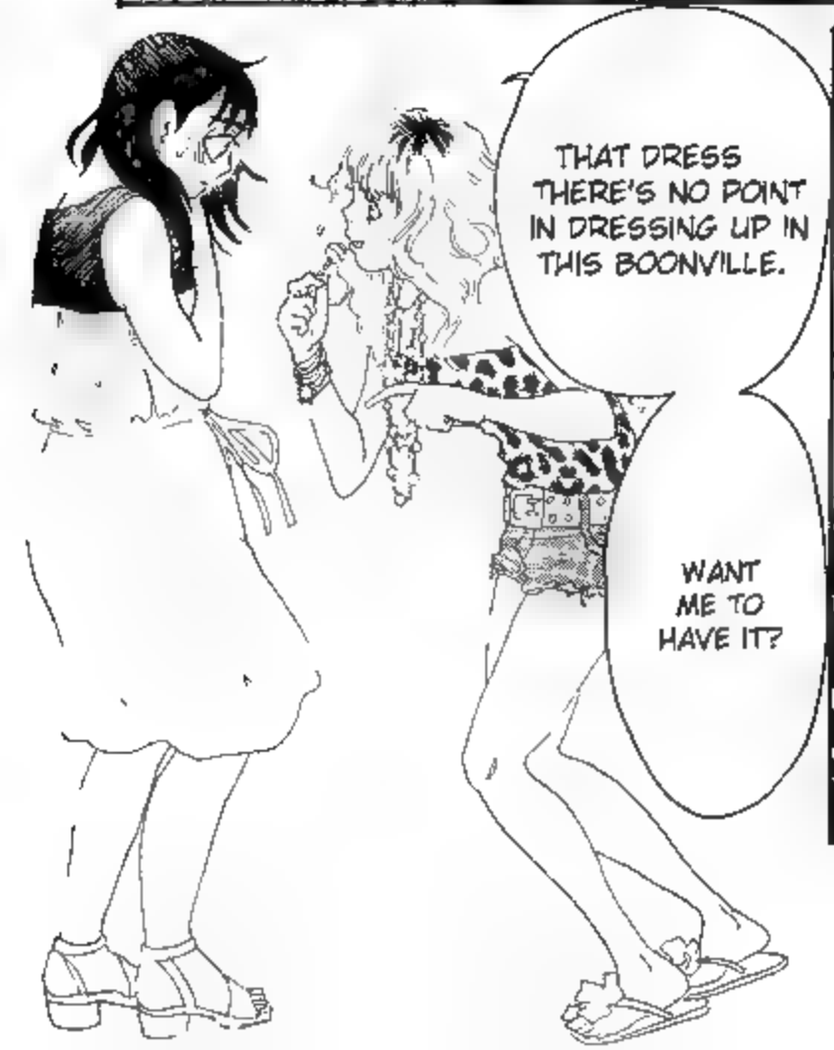
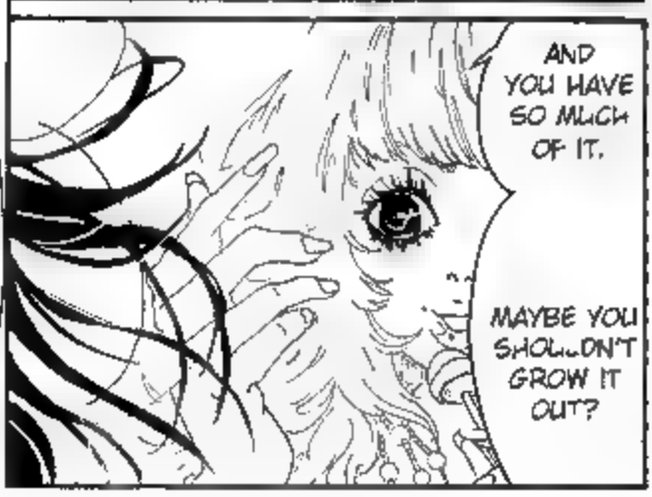
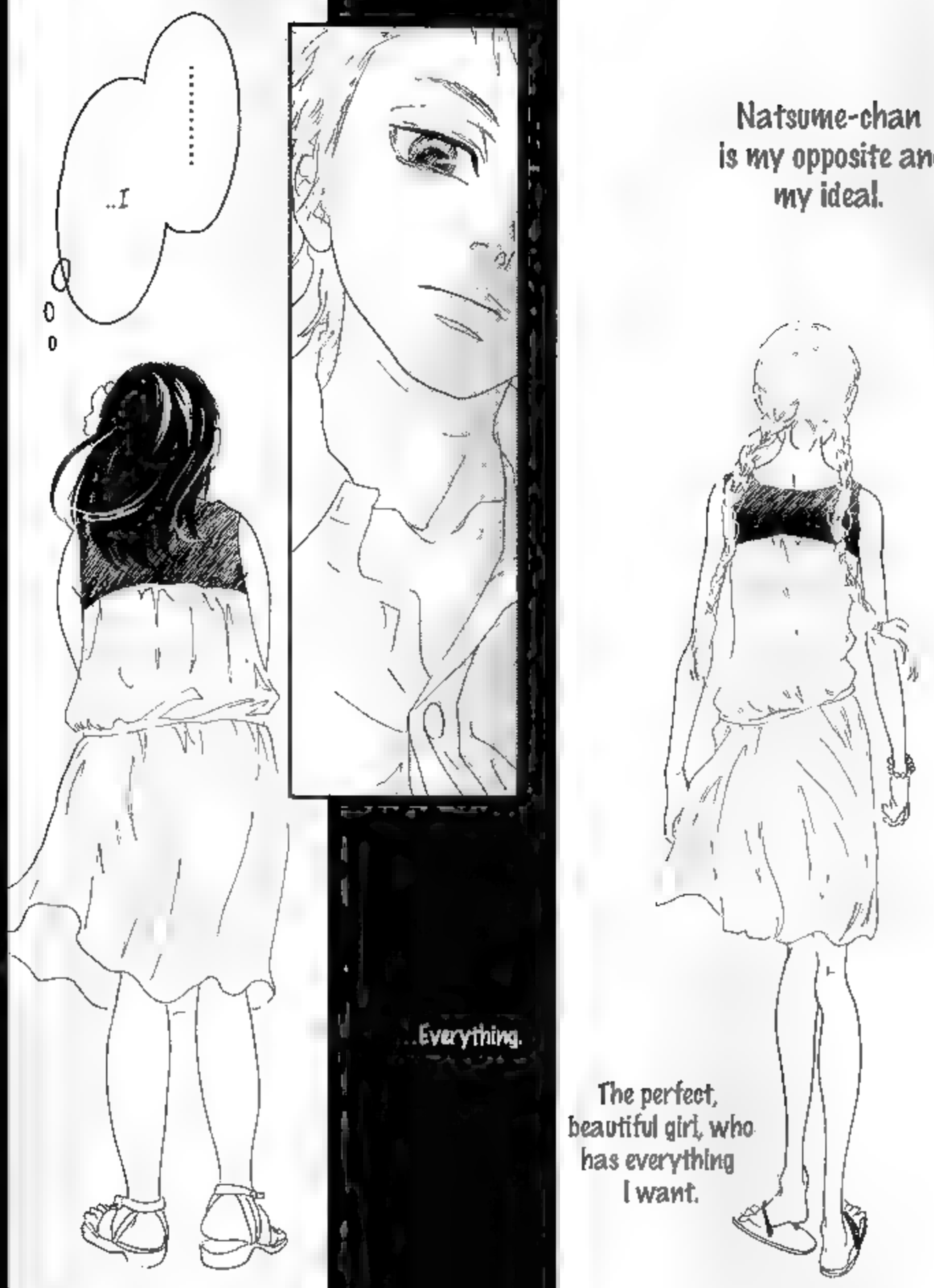




I THOUGHT I'D OPEN ONE MORE ON THIS SIDE, BUT I DIDN'T.
THEY SAY THAT IF YOU HAVE AN ODD NUMBER OF PIERCINGS YOUR DESTINY WILL CHANGE.
ISN'T THAT SCARY?
J-
JULIE -CHAN, UNDER YOUR EYES,
IT'S TOO BLACK.
and your hair makes you look like the lion king
HEHE
I PIERCED THEM.
-PIERCED EARS...?!
...DESTINY ...?
-HEY?!

MOCHI-ZUKI NAT-SUME!
OH
WE'RE WEARING THE SAME DRESS!
BWA HAHA!
YOU SERIOUSLY TRIED TO IMITATE HER!
SHIT, SHE LOOKS TOTALLY DIFFERENT...
...WELL, DUH.
NATSUME-CHAN'S A MODEL.
GYAHAHA YOU'RE LAUGH-ING TOO MUCH.
SFX GYAHAHA


.....
..I
Natsume-chan is my opposite and my ideal.
..Everything.
The perfect, beautiful girl, who has everything I want.

ON PAGE: I WANT TO PIERCE MY EARS!
(DOES IT HURT? IS IT SCARY? ..
I STILL WANT TO!)

TURNS

and that life isn't fair.

my place

understand

DESTINY IS AWFULLY EASY.

IF THIS IS ALL IT TAKES TO CHANGE IT,

Don't you call it destiny because it doesn't change?

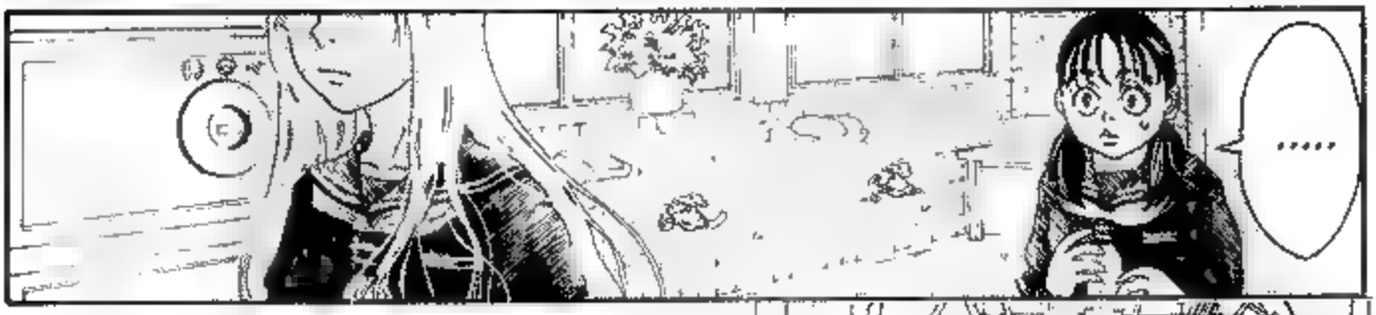
GET'S UP
WHAT'S WITH YOU PEOPLE, RUNNING YOUR MOUTHS...
What the
KOU-CHAN SAVED HER! NOTHING LIKE WHAT YOU'RE SAYING...
!
Because all of you are like this,
Trash!
Morons!
It was nothing to do with her
What's with her?
the two of them have drifted apart!
I have to help them.
LATER IN THE UNUSED CLASSROOM
After school, I'll be waiting in the unused classroom on the 3rd floor
NOW IS MY TIME

"Oh."
"Huh?"
"Kana-chan."
"What?"
"Well I'll be off then."
THOSE TWO MAKE SUCH A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE.
Although in reality Natsuiwa-chan is taller
...SO BEAUTIFUL
Embrace

No way. It's no good. They seem stupid.
With other people
If it were me .
FANTASIZING LOVE SCENES WITH ME IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED!
THAT'S EVEN WORSE!
NATSUME-CHA—N
WHY DON'T YOU DATE HIM?

says these things.
THAT YOU CAN BELIEVE
COULDN'T EVEN SAVE ME!
CRASH!!

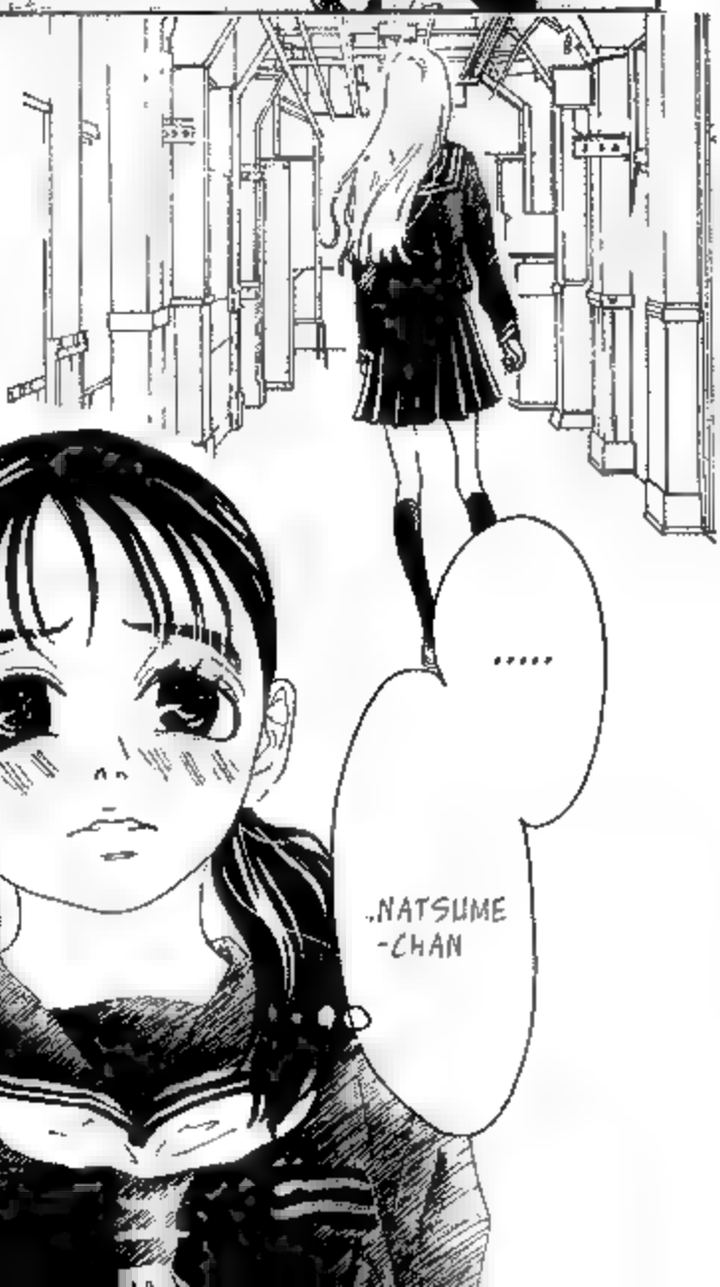
...Oh...
I GUESS THOSE TWO BROKE UP.
It's my fault.
...NATSUME-CHAN...
...UM
THE OTHER DAY...
OH—
I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT.



Something's ...different.

She's different from before.

I used to think she was so bright and sparkly, but now...



It's weird that she would even say that.

COULDN'T EVEN SAVE ME.

KOU -CHAN

That's right.

but even so,

I'M SURE SHE'S IN A LOT OF PAIN BUT,

Kou-chan got hurt trying to save Natsume -chan.

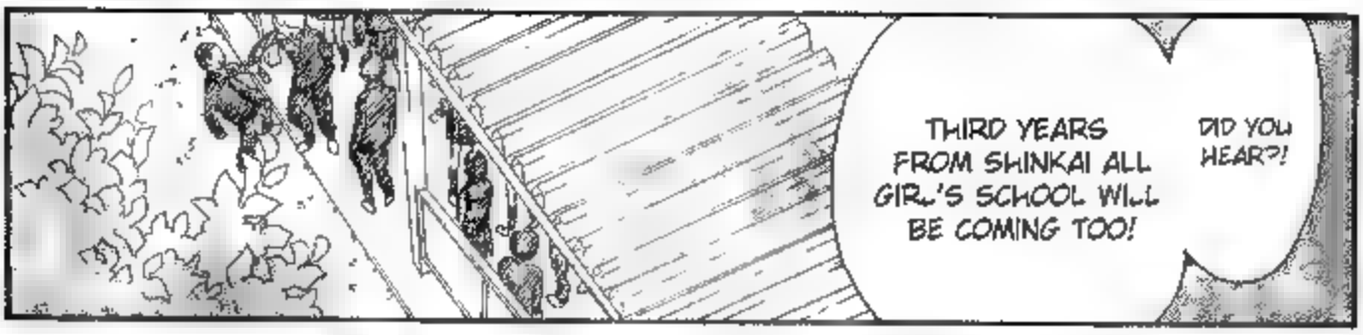
She should really be thanking him, telling him how happy she is and praying that he heals quickly.

That's what should really be happening if she were the old Natsume-chan.

If it were me!
I'M PATHETIC.

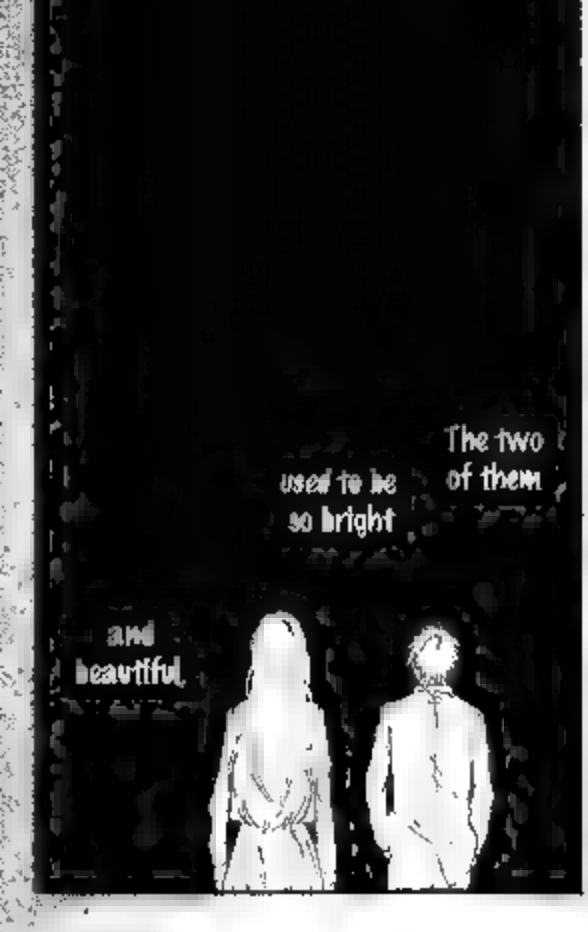
I'm miserable.
HEY
YOU'RE LEAVING SOME BEHIND AGAIN...
AND YOU'VE LOST SO MUCH WEIGHT...
..WHAT?
..SHE'S RIGHT,
AND I BARELY LOST ANY WEIGHT WHEN I WAS DIETING.

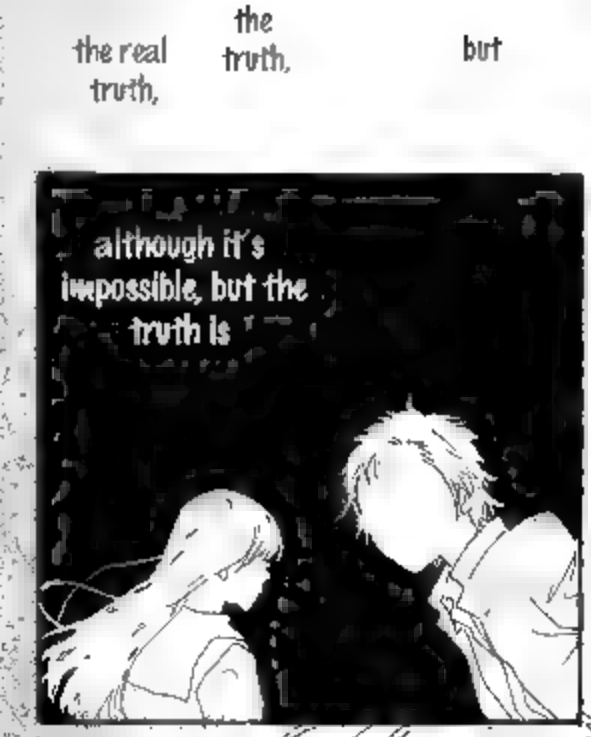
don't go too crazy—"
your winter break starts tomorrow
" .So–


THIRD YEARS FROM SHINKAI ALL GIRL'S SCHOOL WILL BE COMING TOO!
DID YOU HEAR?!

SURE IT'S CHRISTMAS, BUT YOU'RE SINGLE SO YOU PROBABLY HAVE NO PLANS, RIGHT?
Ahaha
COME ON--LET'S GO TO THE AMUSEMENT PARK–

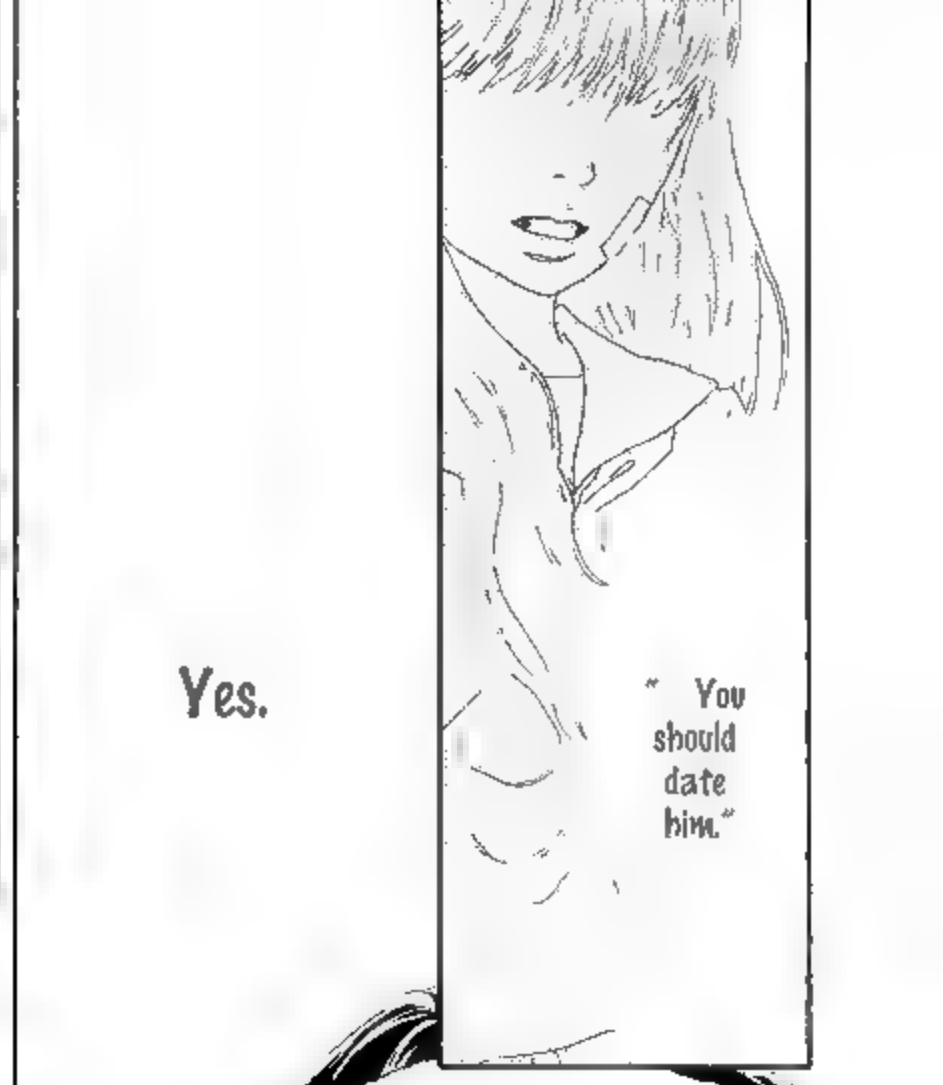
WHAT?
YOU SMELL GOOD.
...WHAT'S THIS?
Perfect!
MUST BE MY EAU DE TOILETTE
I ONLY PUT ON A LITTLE.
YOU CAN TELL?
Cute and popular.
Cute and erotic.
WE ASKED 100 BOYS!!
GIRLS WITH THIS KIND OF MAKE UP
GIRLS WHO SMELL LIKE THIS
TRENDY JUNIOR HIGH BOYS
It's not like
.....
I'M BEING MADE FUN OF ANYWAY
I have to hold back for anyone.

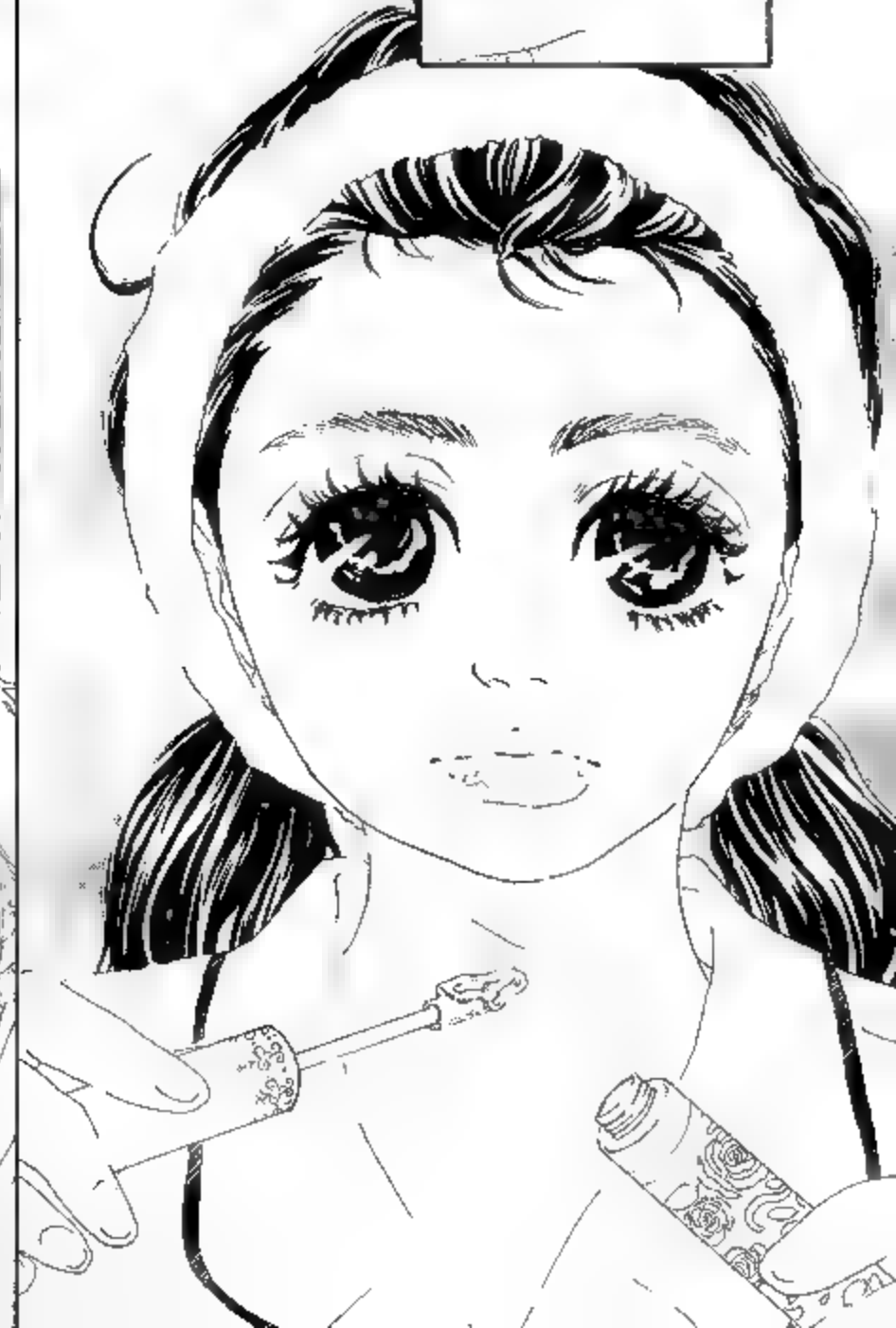

The two of them
used to be so bright
and beautiful.


but
the truth,
the real truth,

although it's impossible, but the truth is

KANA.


Yes.
" You should date him."



—I would
give my all
to be
with you.
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"don't go too crazy—"
" So your spring break starts tomorrow"
WHAT?!
SHE STARTED STRESS EATING ...
Hello
SOMEBODY TWO YEARS OLDER.
HASEGAWA-KUN STARTED DATING A GIRL SHE INTRODUCED HIM TO.
HASN'T
SUZUKA GAINED SOME WEIGHT?
INSTEAD OF SUZUKA
I'D RATHER HIM DATE A GIRL I DON'T KNOW
MY HAIR
HAS GROWN
I wonder if Natsume-chan knows.
I haven't spoken with her in a while...
RATHER ROMANTIC
AND AN OLDER GIRL, AT THAT

COM-
ING—
Drug
do-ne
OH,
MAMA.
IT'S MY
FRIEND,
I'LL GET
IT.
OPENS
YO -
WAIT,
WHAT?
HUH?!

SFX: HUH?!
KANA?!
WHAT HAP-PENED?!
THERE AREN'T ANY GOOD BEAUTY PARLORS WHERE I LIVE, SO I CAME OUT HERE.
CONGRATS ON MOVING UP TO HIGH SCHOOL.
AND THIS IS FROM ME.
THIS IS FROM MY MOTHER.
I'll go ahead and open it, I guess
RUSTLE
THANKS.
THIS DRESS...
OH.
YOU SAID YOU WANTED IT.

I WON'T WEAR IT ANYMORE.
YOU HAVE A PIER-CING...
But you're Kana!
SEE YOU.
OH.
JUST ONE...
...YUP.

.....
HE—Y
JULIE—
WHO'S THAT?
A FRIEND FROM YOUR HOME-TOWN?
WE'RE NOT HANGING OUT?
NO...
ALTHOUGH SHE LOOKS TOTALLY DIFFERENT, THAT'S MY COUSIN I think
BOW
OH.
HI.
OH,
YOU KNOW SHE GOES TO THE SAME SCHOOL ARE YOUR YOUNGER BOYFRIEND.

I SAW HIM YESTERDAY FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A WHILE.
WHAT?
?
HEHEHE
Whack
TWO YEARS YOUNGER IS LIKE A BABY.
HEY STUPID, REMINISCING, ARE WE?
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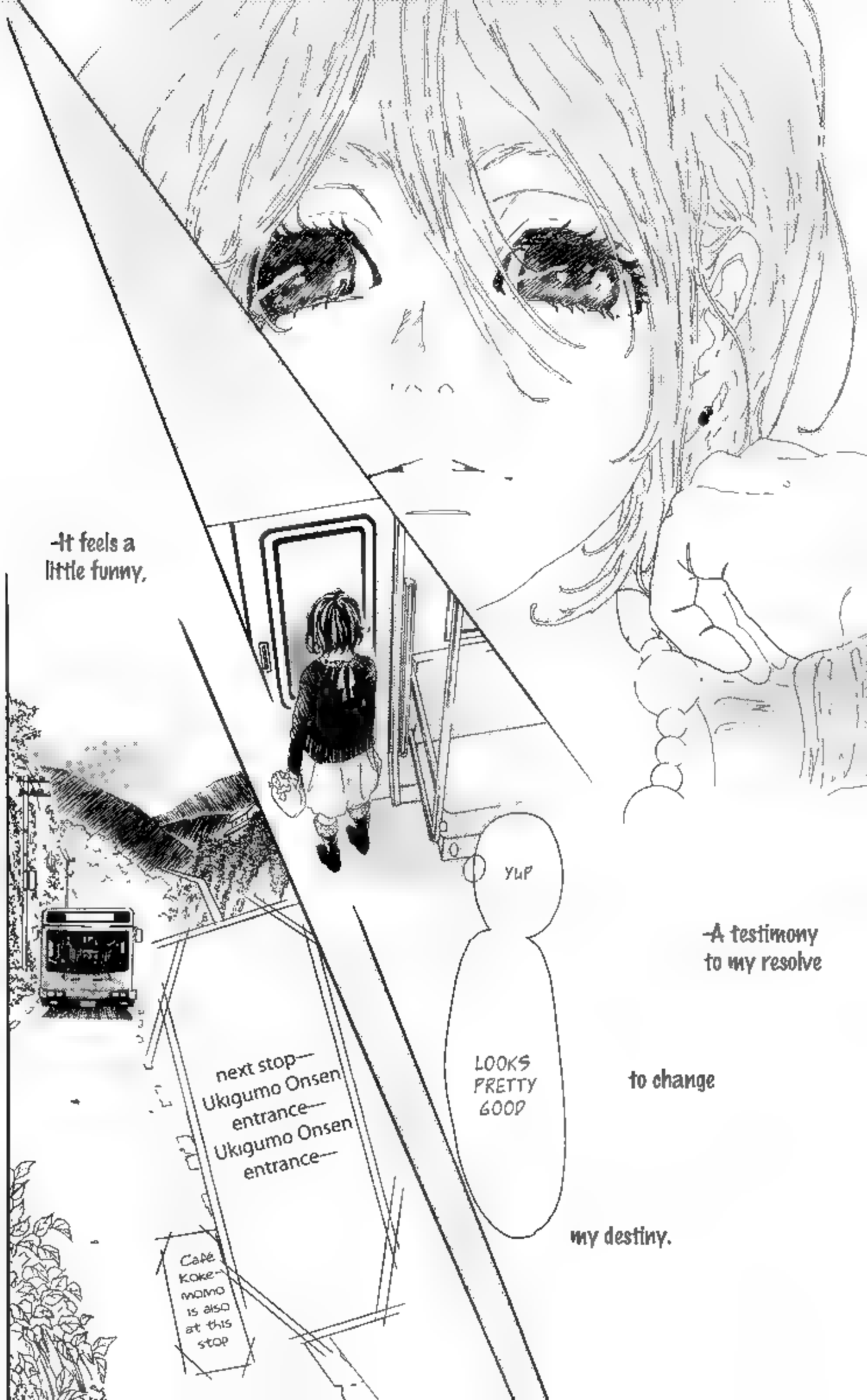
But I won't project myself anymore.
I WOULD LIKE IT
IF KOU-CHAN'S NEW GIRLFRIEND IS LIKE THE GIRL I JUST SAW


-It feels a little funny,
YUP
-A testimony to my resolve
LOOKS PRETTY GOOD
to change
my destiny.
next stop—
Ukigumo Onsen
entrance—
Ukigumo Onsen
entrance—
Café Koke-momo is also at this stop

my heart.
!
SFX FWOOSH

HEHE. IT TICKLES
I'LL BE A 2ND YEAR
Kou-chan and I
same class again.
in the
will be

OBORERU KNIFE

I wasn't thinking.
Back then,

I was always following him around;
I couldn't help myself.
It was as if my body and soul were being sucked into.
...the raging fire within him.

even now,
nothing has changed.
Honestly,

YOU'VE REALLY CHANGED!
YOU KNOW, KANA-CHAN
WHAT?
EARLIER AT THE OPENING CEREMONY IT REALLY SUNK IN FOR ME
THAT YOU NO LONGER STAND OUT IN THE LINE!
THE OTHER SECOND YEARS HAVE THEIR CLASSROOMS ON THE SECOND FLOOR.
AHH, THE SECOND TERM HAS STARTED.
She complained when she found out none of the girls she knew were in our class, beside me.
It's the second year I'm in the same class as Hayase.
.....
GOOD FOR YOU; SHRINKING INTO A SIZE THAT FITS WITH EVERYBODY ELSE!

OH!
.....
...THAT'S TRUE.
WHY DOES OUR CLASS HAVE TO BE ON THE THIRD FLOOR?!
NOW I RARELY GET TO SEE MY FRIENDS IN OTHER CLASSES.
NATSUME-CHAN!

I rarely see Natsume-chan; she's in a different class.
.NO, RATHER ...
I've been avoiding her
her emptiness
her shadow smile,
her shadow conversations,
he's beautiful as ever but she's changed.
I don't really want to see her
WHY ARE YOU GOING AHEAD WITHOUT ME?!
HEY—.

I SPY KOICHIRO—!
OH.
YO!
HOW'S IT GOING?

...Hmm?
BWAHA!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
SURPRISED YOU, DIDN'T I! WE BORROWED SUZUKA'S WINTER UNIFORMS.
NOW WE WON'T GET CAUGHT.
OF COURSE YOU'LL GET CAUGHT
THERE ARE NO LION KINGS AT KAITO JUNIOR HIGH.
YOU SHRIMP ...
JULIE-CHAN.
OH- SO THAT'S KOU-CHAN'S GIRLFRIEND.
SFX: HAHAHAHA

BEFORE, HE WOULDN'T HAVE LIKED IT IF A GIRL INTRUDED ON HIM LIKE THAT!
PROBABLY
... HUH?
THAT'S TRUE
PROBABLY
OOTOMO WAS SAYING TOO,
IT'S FUN TO TALK TO HIM BUT, IT'S NOT LIKE IT USED TO BE...
THAT LATELY, HE DOESN'T GET KOU.
KOU-CHAN'S
CHANGED TOO.
HE DOESN'T EVEN GO TO PRACTICE ANYMORE, RIGHT?
I DUNNO ...
.....
OPENS

HMM?
DRAG
DRAG
ALRIGHT PEOPLE, GET TO YOUR SEATS.
SFX: BWA
WHAT IS THAT LION KING?!
YOU COUNTRY BUMPKINS DON'T KNOW ANYTHING
JULIE CHAN
OH.
Pulls
YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH OF PLAYING JUNIOR HIGH, HAVEN'T YOU?
Gets up
KAITO HIGH
ALRIGHT YOU'VE GOTTEN CAUGHT ALREADY

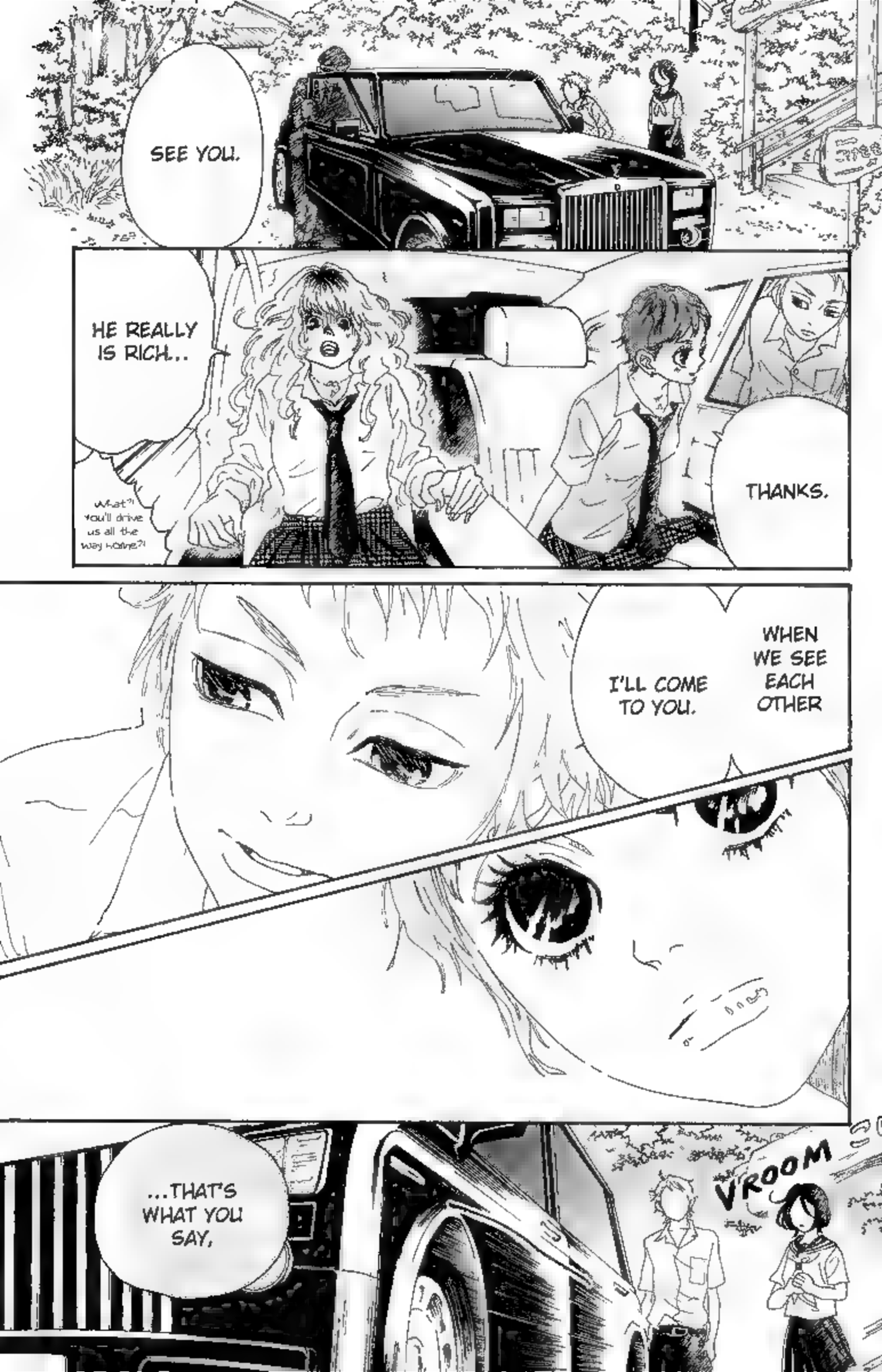
——…
WAIT FOR ME…
HEY…
OH,
WAIT, HASEGAWA-KUN?!
…..
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY…?
THEY'RE PRETTY BOLD…
Everybody …
NO, I MEAN…
HUH?
THOSE TWO…
…YOU KNOW,

...you can't help but realise
how they spent their [illegible] vacation.
If your classmate acts that way, as if it were totally natural,
They were so mature; like a man and a [illegible]
is shocked.
It's not surprising.

I'M HOME—...
OH.
WELCOME BACK—.
I'M UEHARA. I GO TO SHINKAI GIRL'S HIGH SCHOOL, SAME AS JULIE.
DOKI DOKI
OH.
YEAH ...
WE'VE MET ONCE BEFORE- DO YOU REMEMBER?
I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND MY INTRUDING.
Which one do you like?
Kana-chan
...Oh.
NICE TO MEET YOU, KANA-CHAN.

IS IT TRUE THAT HIS EX-GIRLFRIEND IS "MOCHIZUKI NATSUME"?
HEY-! KANA-!
I SHOULD'VE EXPECTED AS MUCH OF THE GIRL KOU-CHAN CHOSE...
APPARENTLY I HAVE A WEAKNESS FOR THE KINDNESS OF BEAUTIFUL AND URBAN PEOPLE. .
Heart thumping
COULD THAT BE WHY HE DOESN'T WANT US TO COME TO HIS SCHOOL...?
ARE THEY BY ANY CHANCE, STILL CLOSE?
UH...
PLUS YOU SAID THAT HE'S BEEN A LITTLE DISTANT LATELY.
AND ALL HE HAS TO SAY IS "DON'T DO THIS KIND OF THING AGAIN"! THAT'S ANNOYING.
COME ON, WE CAME SO FAR TO SEE HIM
HEY, JULIE...
What are you talking about?
JULIE-CHAN
WELL... AND THE PRIMARY REASON IS TO GET AUNTY TO DRIVE US TO THE TRAIN STATION.
There are no more buses
That's why we're here?!
WHAT?
WE CAME HERE TO FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING ON WITH HIM.
JULIE-CHAN.

WHAT ...?
I STILL TALK WITH HIM AND TEXT HIM, YOU KNOW?
I MEAN, I'M STILL FRIENDS WITH MY EX-BOY-FRIEND,
EX-GIRL-FRIEND...
OH, JEEZ--
--compared to that perfect couple,
and even you people,
Your ex-boyfriend and Kou-chan.
Hey, hey!
OH.
I'D RATHER YOU NOT TRY TO DRAW COMPARISONS!
GO HOME.
I GOT YOU A RIDE,


SEE YOU.
HE REALLY IS RICH..
What?! You'll drive us all the way home?!
THANKS.
I'LL COME TO YOU.
WHEN WE SEE EACH OTHER
...THAT'S WHAT YOU SAY,
VROOM

BUT I CAME HERE
BECAUSE YOU DON'T COME...
SFX VROOM
.....
.....
SO YOU AND THE LION KING ARE COUSINS!
.....
Come to think of it you look sustly alike

YOUR GIRLFRIEND
SHE'S COOL
BUT SHE'S ALSO A VERY CUTE PERSON...
YEAH.
BUT
YEAH,
how can she say he's "distant" after that display earlier?
...That should be enough.

DOES SHE ACTUALLY REALISE
KOU-CHAN'S VALUE...?
YOUR FACE IS GOING THROUGH A HUNDRED DIFFERENT EXPRES-SIONS.
DO YOU KNOW KURAMOTO-SENPAI?
...HUH?
WHO...?
HE SAYS HE WANTS TO GET TO KNOW YOU.
HUH?
WHY?
HE PROBABLY WANTS TO DO IT, NO?
DO WHAT?
SEX.
.....

AH.
AREN'T YOU MISTA-KING ME FOR SOMEBODY ELSE?
WHY WOULD THAT BE THE CASE...?
YOU KNOW,
YOU'VE CHANGED.
GIRLS
ARE ALWAYS CHANGING.
—Are you...

talking about me or your girlfriend?
...Or perhaps
Natsume-chan?
But everybody says Kou-chan has changed too, you know?

for free
Natsume or
or Kou
came.

It always seemed as if the gods rejoiced in Natsume-chan's and Kou-chan's presence.
Why did they have to get caught up in the current of destiny...?
.....
WHAT THE...?

.....
HIS GIRLFRIEND'S HERE...
OH.

SFX: SLAP
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?!
AHAHAHA.
...FU

YOU'RE SO IRRITATING...
HAHA.
I'M NOT.
STOP MAKING A MOCKERY OF ME!

UH,
WHAT ...?
For some reason I feel she overlaps with Natsume-chan...
...That girl.

aware of
their
similarities?
IS KUU-CHAN
SFX WOOSH
WOOSH
HYA-
FLOP
.....

SPLOOSH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
SINKS
SINKS
SINKING
SINKING
OH.
.....

COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
YOU CAME CHASING AFTER ME TO SAY THAT?
.. WHAT THE HELL?
HEHE.
YOU LIKE FEISTY BEAUTIES, DON'T YOU...?
COUGH
COUGH
YOU CAN'T SWIM; WHAT WERE YOU THINKING?
K-
KOU-CHAN
I THOUGHT IF I WENT IN THE OCEAN YOU'D GIVE UP AND GO HOME
—BUT EVEN WITH YOUR NEW PIERCING,
INSIDE, YOU'RE STILL THE SAME AS BEFORE

I'LL NEVER CHANGE.
...YES.
I'LL PROBABLY CHASE AFTER YOU LIKE THIS FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.
HEHE,
I'M THE EXACT OPPOSITE

OF THE TYPE OF GIRL THAT YOU LIKE.
BUT KOU-CHAN, YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED EITHER.

EVEN NOW.
AS BEFORE,
THERE'S STILL A BLAZING FIRE INSIDE YOU
it's beautiful but frightening;
I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO DESCRIBE IT,
IT'S LIKE
THAT FIRE IS ALWAYS GLITTERING.
LIKE A GOD.

...Ah.
...?
Did I say something I shouldn't have?
For some reason I felt compelled to say it just now.
But it's true.
Oh.

IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL.
Whether it was because of my piercing or because we went into God's ocean,
Kou-chan, Natsume-chan and I,
are caught inside an unforeseeable current.

Oboreru Knife volume 5
- END -

See you in volume 6!

OBORERU KNIFE

ジョージ朝倉シリーズ

水蜜桃の夜
少年少女ロマンス〈全3巻〉
恋文日和[1]～[3]〈以下続刊〉
KCDX バラが咲いた ―ジョージ朝倉初期傑作選―
溺れるナイフ[1]～[5]〈以下続刊〉

大好評発売中!

溺れるナイフ 5

ジョージ朝倉

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誘拐事件を境に
汚され、踏み荒らされた「世界」を
元に戻すことはできないと、
思い知らされた夏芽とコウちゃん。
心ない周囲の目が、追い討ちをかけ……。
気高くあやうい十代が大きく軋む。
喪失の第5巻!!

このマンガの取材で山の中を歩くため、
行くたびにアウトドアグッズが
増えてゆきます。
そして「もっと好みのデザインの
グッズが出ますように」と
山の神さんに願って帰ります。

George Asakura
ジョージ朝倉

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